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18 November 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF, ICAPS

Subject: Intelligence Terminology

Reference: ICAPS Memo of 4 October 1946, same subject.

1. The following intelligence terms appear to require clear definitions.

-intelligence	-counter-intelligence
✓information	-counter-espionage
✓distribution	✓espionage
✓dissemination	✓agent
✓grading	✓vet
✓evaluation	✓brief
✓source	✓informant
✓origin	✓informer
✓essential elements of information	✓witting informant
✓national intelligence requirements	✓unwitting informant
✓indication	✓propaganda - white
✓strategic intelligence digest	✓propaganda - black
✓clandestine	✓collation
✓overt	✓double agent
✓covert	✓collection
✓semi-overt	✓intelligence brief
✓semi-covert	✓intelligence target

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DONALD H. GALLOWAY  
Assistant Director  
Special Operations

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**CONFIDENTIAL***Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, ICAPS

FROM : Assistant Director, Collection and Dissemination

SUBJECT: Intelligence Terminology

DATE: 25 October 1946

1. Reference your memorandum of 4 October, above subject, the need for coordination of intelligence terminology is concurred in. Recognition of the need in March 1946 gave rise to the project which was initiated by Planning Directive No. 6 of the Central Planning Staff. When the project was interrupted by last summer's reorganization, the following steps had been taken:

a. Pending assignment of sufficient personnel to make the study, the Office of the Chief, CPS, secured definitions of eleven fundamental intelligence terms previously prepared by the War Department. These had been thoroughly worked out and were consistent with dictionary usage as well as with latest official doctrine of the War Department.

b. When sufficient personnel were assigned late in May, the ANSCOL Dictionary of Military Terms was promptly secured and reviewed. Comments or proposed definitions for twenty terms frequently used in intelligence work were then drafted by a committee. However, as an incident to the reorganization, this list of definitions by-passed the Chief, CPS, and should not be considered as having his approval. Some of the definitions could be improved by systematic review and criticism.

c. A drafted recommendation of 9 August that ICAPS prepare an NIA Directive establishing the definitions as standard for Government usage was apparently not acted on, so the project then died.

2. Enclosed are three lists:

TAB A. The terms for which the Office of the Chief, Central Planning Staff, furnished definitions in March.

TAB B. Those terms from the ANSCOL Dictionary which were commented on in August.

TAB C. Terms (including some from Tabs A and B) which the Office of Collection and Dissemination feels are now so loosely used as to require clear definition.

3. a. Proposed definitions are not submitted herewith for two reasons:

- (1) Many of the terms in Tab C pertain to functions of offices other than the Office of Collection and Dissemination. The office having primary interest in a function should have the first opportunity to draft or review any definition pertaining exclusively to such function.

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- (2) The labor of developing definitions is extensive. To avoid waste effort, a decision should first be reached as to which definitions are to be prepared.

b. If the definitions are to be really useful to the Government, they should be developed in the comprehensive manner of professional dictionaries. We should avoid the error of over-simplifying or incorrectly limiting a definition to only one usage. To illustrate: Webster's New International Dictionary gives nine definitions of "intelligence", at least three of which apply to the intelligence problem under the NIA. In contrast to this, the definition of "intelligence" contained in the list referred to under 1 b, above, is narrow, recognizing only one of four known meanings of military intelligence.

c. A project of this difficulty should not be pursued hastily. An initial realization that probably several months may be required will help insure sound results in the long run. It is suggested that a practical approach would be to select first a half dozen key words, such as information, intelligence, intelligence-information, collection, evaluation and dissemination, for the initial project. The definition of each should be based on a study of existing professional dictionary definitions and previously proposed definitions, plus a study of pertinent discussions in the Encyclopedia Britannica and in manuals of the State, War and Navy Departments. Drafts of definitions should then be prepared and referred to all Assistant Directors for review and comment. When accord has been reached in CIG, the proposed definitions should then be offered for comment or concurrence of the member agencies of the IAB. After the first six key definitions are approved and published, it is believed that the development of the remaining definitions, in increments of fifteen or twenty each, will be much easier.

4. It is recommended that:

- a. A composite list be prepared, combining terms from Tab C with those submitted by other Assistant Directors.
- b. A plan of development be initiated, along lines outlined in 3 c, above.

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C. E. OLSEN  
Captain, U. S. N.  
Assistant Director for  
Collection and Dissemination

3 Incls:  
Tabs A, B and C

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Intelligence Terms for which  
War Department Prepared Definitions

Censorship, civil

Censorship, military

Counterintelligence

Dissemination (of military intelligence)(Disseminate, v.t.)

Enemy Capabilities

Enemy Order of Battle

Estimate of the Enemy Situation

Essential Elements of Information

Evaluation (Evaluate, v.t.)

Intelligence

Military Information

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Intelligence Terms for which CIG Drafted  
Comments or Definitions in August

Aerial Photography, Interpretation of  
Capabilities, Enemy  
Censorship  
Censorship, Civil  
Censorship, Military  
Classified Matter  
Compromise  
Counterintelligence  
Declassify  
Downgrade  
Information, National Essential Elements of  
Intelligence  
Intelligence, Air  
Intelligence, Combat  
Intelligence Information  
Military  
Production Loss Appraisal  
Security  
Security, Internal  
Strategic Materials

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Intelligence words and phrases loosely used  
and not uniformly understood.

Capabilities, enemy —	Dissemination ✓
Censorship ✓	Distribution ✓
Censorship, civil —	Document ✓
Censorship, military —	Downgrade —
Cipher (encipher, decipher) —	Espionage ✓
Classify (classification, classified matter) —	Essential elements — of information — of intelligence X
Code (encode, decode) —	Evaluation ✓
Collation ✓	Information <sup>by</sup> Information modified <sup>by</sup> adjectives or adjective phrases as follows: atomic energy; classified; counter- intelligence; domestic, economic; military; naval; nuclear energy; nuclear physics; political; scientific; technical.
Collection ✓	
Collection directive X	
Collection plan X	
Compromise —	Intelligence — Intelligence modified by adjectives or adjective phrases as follows: air; atomic energy; basic; clandestine; combat; communications; domestic; economic; flak; foreign; military; naval; national policy; nuclear energy; nuclear physics; photo; political; positive; scientific; secret; special; static; strategic; tactical; technical.
Counter-espionage —	
Counterintelligence —	
Counterintelligence measures X	
Counterintelligence operations X	
Counterintelligence plan X	Intelligence-information X Intelligence information modified by adjectives or adjective phrases as follows: atomic energy; domestic; economic; foreign; military; naval; nuclear energy; nuclear physics; political; scientific; technical.
Counter-sabotage ✓	
Cover ✓	
Coverage X	
Cryptanalysis —	Interpretation X
Declassify ✓	Interpretation, photo X
Directive, collection X	Operations, counterintelligence X
Directive, research X	

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Operations, intelligence X

Order of battle X

Order of battle, enemy X

Order of battle, foreign X

Plan, intelligence X

Plan, collection X

Plan, counterintelligence X

Plan, research X

Reading center ✓

Reading panel ✓

Requirement, intelligence X

Requirement, information Y

Research ✓

Research, intelligence X

Source ✓

Security —

Security, internal —

Security, physical —

Security, domestic †

Security, cryptographic †

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24 October 1946

MEMORANDUM TO: Chief, Interdepartmental Coordinating and  
Planning Staff

SUBJECT: Intelligence Terminology

1. Your memorandum of 4 October 1946 on this subject has been received. A memorandum has now been directed to the Branch Chiefs of ORE and to other appropriate members of the ORE staff, requesting them to assemble a list of intelligence terms in different usage by the agencies and a list of intelligence terms so loosely used as to require clear definitions.

2. The lists will be compiled as rapidly as the nature of the task, the limitations of personnel, and the priority of other tasks permit.

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J. KLAHR HUDDLE  
Assistant Director for  
Research and Evaluation

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Act'g. Asst. Dir., GAO  
Act'g. Asst. Dir., R&E  
Act'g. Asst. Dir., SO

4 October 1946

Act'g. Chief, ICAPS

### Intelligence Terminology

ICAPS has constantly run into difficulties in dealing with the various intelligence agencies of the government because of the difference in usage of intelligence terms. The Office of Special Operations has also indicated an urgent need for the establishment of basic intelligence terminology.

Will you each please canvass your offices in an attempt to supply ICAPS with a list of intelligence terms in different usage by the agencies as well as intelligence terms so loosely used as to require clear definitions.

If you or members of your staff have proposals in the form of definitions they will be welcomed.

The only work done to date in this field by OIS has been the submission to JCS in connection with the Joint dictionary of military terms for Army and Navy use.

DE/bhr

DONALD TRANE

✓ Central Records (2)

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